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Director Of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Box PCT

RE: National Stage Entry In The United States For PCT International Application PCT/AU99/00135.

Attorney Docket: GH-00322.

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), we request that the aforementioned PCT International Application be entered into the national stage in the United States. To that end, we submit the following items to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO):

- (1) PCT Transmittal Letter (Form PTO-1390);
- (2) PCT International Application PCT/AU99/00135 accompanied by the International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/210);
- (3) PCT International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) (PCT/IPEA/409) inclusive of substitute sheets 2, 8 and 9;
- (4) An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) accompanied by (a) Form PTO-1449 listing all references cited in the IDS, and (b) a copy of each relevant reference cited in the IDS; and
- (5) The filing fee for a large entity in the amount of \$1100.00.

Please note that the International Application was amended on 21 December 1999. These amendments are contained in the three substitute sheets that accompany the IPER. Specifically, substitute sheet 2 contains amendments to the description and substitute sheets 8 and 9 contain amendments to the claims. As is apparent from pages 1 and 2 of the IPER, the International Preliminary Examination took into account the amendments contained on those three substitute sheets.

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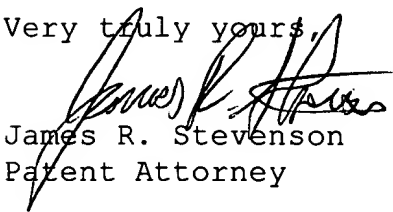
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Lastly, the following items will be submitted as soon as they become available:

- (1) A Declaration of Inventor(s) And Power of Attorney form;
- (2) An Assignment form; and
- (3) A Small Entity Statement for a Small Business Concern (37 C.F.R. §1.9(f) & §1.27(c)).

If you have any questions about the matters discussed in this correspondence, please contact our office accordingly.

Very truly yours,


James R. Stevenson
Patent Attorney

Enclosures: as stated

JRS:sf

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

on September 5, 2000
Smith O'Harety